

fore we need the support and backing that can come only through an expanding membership. Will you support all this necessary and very good work that is going on for you, your family and your nation, helping to build a sound and stable economy?

We have arranged a special rural group membership for Local Women's Institute branches. The fee is \$5.00 which entitles each branch to all the privileges of membership and the submitting of problems and sugges-

tions. This fee also provides for supplying each branch with 15 C.A.C. bulletins which are issued 10 times a year and can be distributed to members.

C.A.C. needs your branch support today. Join C.A.C. now.

Note: The address is Mrs. Clifton Graban, 213 Wilbrod Street, Ottawa, Ontario. Mrs. Graban is Chairman, Rural Group Membership, Canadian Association of Consumers.

# A Course In Making Rugs

By Florence Wright

The hooked rug course lasts for four-and-a-half days to make it possible for the class members to learn some of the basic rules of pattern making and colour harmony so that they can not only make one satisfactory rug but can continue to make others that will be just as good.

It may seem difficult for the busy farm mother to spare the time for a four-and-a-half day course but sometimes arrangements can be made to make it possible. For those with pre-school children, they can be brought along. The informal nature of the class allows them to play happily with each other and their toys without disturbing the work. At one class an infant in arms was brought in a clothes basket. Perhaps someone not interested in hooking can be persuaded to look after the children. There is other farm work to keep one at home, but possibly it isn't as demanding as it seems. One member of a class who had four hundred baby chicks coming in every month to be looked after and marketed when ready, made the effort and after a day or two exclaimed, "To think that I even considered not taking this course!" Most of the women look on the week as being a sort of holiday as they plan and work with the others in an easy atmosphere that makes for fellowship and recreation.

As for a hooked rug, it can be a thing of use and beauty made from practically nothing—a feed bag makes the foundation; old clothes that have lost their usefulness and some dye will make a pleasing article for the home. The class members don't need to be designers but they can make their own individual patterns by a repetition of a simple shape that appeals to them, arranged by the basic rule that they learn and apply, or even by adapting a pattern to their own needs. Sometimes an object suggested by their particular interest forms the basis of a pattern, such as the rug made for a sea captain's hall, with a compass and other seafaring objects, arranged in a regular way. Even the traditional geometric patterns that are so good, become the expression of the individuality of the hooker by the colour placing and the hooking technique that she uses.



Members of the Selkirk Women's Institute class in Rugmaking put a design on a rug under the supervision of their instructor, Miss Florence Wright of the Department of Agriculture's Home Economics Extension Service. —Photo courtesy Hamilton Spectator.

## SUGGESTION FOR A BUS TRIP

THE EXECUTIVE AND members of the Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty extend a cordial invitation to the members of the Women's Institutes of Ontario to visit the museum during the season of 1956. Aware of the interest in the preservation of local material and the records of history among the Institutes of Ontario, the directors are proud to show them what has been accomplished since 1953 by a small community. In 1955 the museum was presented with an award of merit by the American Association for State and Local History.

For the use of those who would like to bring a picnic the museum has provided three picnic tables, an electric kettle for hot water and a large teapot. There are adequate toilet facilities.

The museum is three miles off the Queen Elizabeth Way and within six miles of St. Catharines on Highway 8. It is open after May 12 from 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. daily until the end of October.

Please write the custodian for an appointment—address Jordan, Ontario.